

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. – 30. (Canceled)

31. (Currently Amended) A data storage device, comprising:

a rotating disc assembly comprising a disc surface;

~~a read transducer in operable transducing relationship to the disc surface defining a read width;~~

a write transducer in operable transducing relationship to the disc surface ~~defining a write width;~~

a plurality of adjacent data tracks on the disc surface;

a first region comprising a subset of the adjacent data tracks disposed at a track-to-track spacing such that the write transducer at least partially overlaps a track with an adjacent track; substantially equivalent to the read width

a second region comprising a subset of the adjacent data tracks, wherein the second region does not contain any of the adjacent data tracks of the first region; and defining a guard band separating adjacent each of the first region and the second region last tracks of the plurality of adjacent tracks, the guard band having a width at least substantially the width of the write width or greater.

32. (Currently Amended) The data storage device of claim 31 further comprising data written to a first track of the first region adjacent tracks, and data written to a second track adjacent to the first track, wherein the write transducer is moved in a first radial direction between the first and second tracks such that the data written to the first track is encroached only on one side by the data written to the second track.

33. (Currently Amended) The data storage device of claim 32 further comprising data written to a last track of the first region adjacent tracks, wherein one or more intermediate tracks are interposed between the second track and the last track, the write member moving only in the first radial direction in traversing the intermediate plurality of tracks such that all data written to each intermediate track is encroached only on one side by data subsequently written to the respective adjacent track.

34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently Amended) The data storage device of claim 31 further comprising a sequential data record stored on tracks in the first region ~~to a selected number of the plurality of adjacent tracks while moving the write member in the first radial direction between writing to adjacent tracks.~~

36. - 41. (Canceled)

42. (New) The data storage device of claim 31 wherein the guard band further comprises a track which is located between the first region and second region.

43. (New) The data storage device of claim 31 wherein the guard band comprises a track in one of the regions.

44. (New) The data storage device of claim 31 wherein the guard band comprises the last track of the first region.